

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4223
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2000
TRADE WITH SAUDI ARABIA
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) The total trade between India and Saudi Arabia at present;
- (b) whether a high level delegation of Saudi Arabia had an interaction with Indian exporters in the month of March, 2000;
- (c) if so, the details of the interaction;
- (d) whether Saudi delegation has opined that India can export tyres, machinery, Basmati rice to them as markets of these things are being dominated by Japan, Pakistan and USA; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by Government to boost export of these items to Saudi Arabia?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

- a) The total trade between India and Saudi Arabia during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 has been of the order of US \$ 3198 mn., US\$ 2648 mn. and US\$ 3020 mn. respectively
- b) to d) In March, 2000, no official trade delegation from Saudi Arabia visited India.
- e) Steps to boost exports to Saudi Arabia include exchange of trade delegations, regular meetings of Joint Commission, participation in trade fairs/exhibitions, market surveys, organisation of buyer-seller meets etc.